



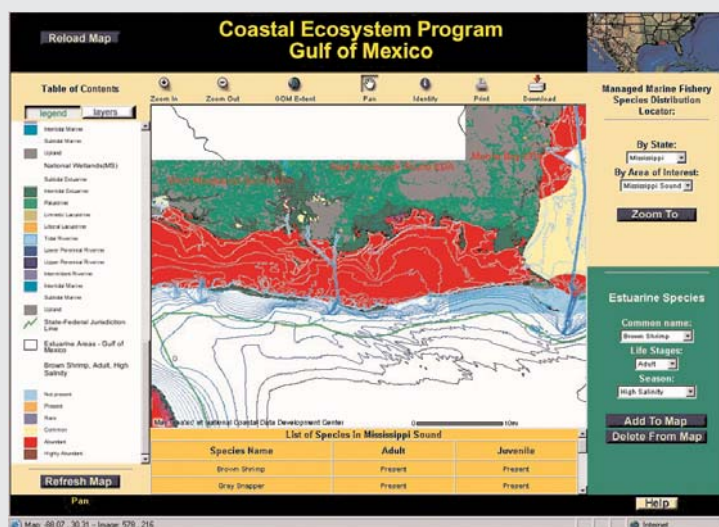
## Coastal Ecosystem Program Gulf of Mexico

*Advancing coastal ecological science and management through efficient access to the coastal data record.*

The NCDDC Coastal Ecosystem Program promotes the NOAA goal of ecosystem management by offering scientists, natural resource managers, and coastal decision-makers improved access to the coastal ecosystem data record. This promotes efficient use of coastal, near-shore marine, and watershed data for applied research, monitoring, stewardship, and management initiatives. By improving Internet access to coastal data, NCDDC assists efforts to target new studies, while also helping to avoid duplication of past efforts. Current program efforts focus on the Gulf of Mexico region, and will soon undergo national expansion. Current beneficiaries of the NCDDC Coastal Ecosystem Program include:

- NOAA NMFS, OST, OHC, OPR, and the NMFS Galveston Laboratory
- NOAA NOS
- EPA GMP
- USFWS
- USGS
- The states of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida
- Gulf State Marine Fisheries Commission
- Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council

The NCDDC Coastal Ecosystem Program website provides an on-line mapping capability to view relevant coastal and marine data layers by region and by estuary in the Gulf of Mexico. Additionally, NCDDC is working with the NMFS Galveston Laboratory to develop a more sophisticated ArcIMS capability that will help coastal researchers and managers to find what species are found in particular areas ("What's here?"), or where any given species or group of species may be found in the Gulf of Mexico region ("Where is it?"). Data layers may be queried and combined for use in habitat or permitting consultations, or for use in habitat delineations.



### For more information:

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- Please visit our web site: <http://www.ncddc.noaa.gov/ecosystems>